

Message Text

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SUBJ: JOINT CANADA-ISRAEL ECONOMIC COMMITTEE

1. FOLLOWING IS TEXT OF SEPTEMBER 27 EXTAFF COMMUNIQUE
ON THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A JOINT CANADA-ISRAEL
ECONOMIC COMMITTEE:

BEGIN QUOTE.

THE GOVERNMENTS OF CANADA AND OF ISRAEL HAVE DECIDED
TO FORM A COMMITTEE TO BE CALLED 'THE CANADA-ISRAEL
JOINT COMMITTEE FOR THE DEVELOPMENT OF TRADE AND
ECONOMIC CO-OPERATION'.

A MEMORANDUM OF UNDERSTANDING ESTABLISHING THE
COMMITTEE WAS SIGNED ON SEPTEMBER 27 BY THE HON. DONALD
JAMIESON, SECRETARY OF STATE FOR EXTERNAL AFFAIRS FOR
THE GOVERNMENT OF CANADA, AND BY HIS EXCELLENCY YIGAL
ALLON, DEPUTY PRIME MINISTER AND MINISTER FOR FOREIGN
AFFAIRS FOR THE GOVERNMENT OF ISRAEL.

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THE COMMITTEE WILL BE MADE UP OF SENIOR OFFICIALS AND WHEN AGREED, MAY BE HEADED BY MINISTERS. MEETINGS WILL NORMALLY TAKE PLACE ONCE A YEAR, ALTERNATING BETWEEN CANADA AND ISRAEL. THE COMMITTEE WILL EXPLORE POSSIBILITIES OF EXPANDING TRADE AND ECONOMIC AND INDUSTRIAL CO-OPERATION BETWEEN CANADA AND ISRAEL. THE COMMITTEE IS TO WORK TO PROMOTE THE EXCHANGE OF TECHNOLOGY, INCLUDING INDUSTRIAL RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT. BOTH CANADA AND ISRAEL HAVE SPECIALIZED IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF CERTAIN HIGH TECHNOLOGY INDUSTRIES, AND IT IS EXPECTED THAT THERE WILL BE MUTALLY PROFITABLE EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION.

THE COMMITTEE'S MANDATE INCLUDES THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF INVESTMENT, AND VARIOUS PROPOSALS WILL BE STUDIED INCLUDING THE POSSIBILITY OF SETTING UP JOINT OR MIXED VENTURES OR COMPANIES. BOTH MINISTERS EXPRESSED SATISFACTION THAT AGREEMENT HAD BEEN REACHED AND STATED THEIR BELIEF THAT IMPORTANT MUTUAL BENEFITS WOULD ARISE FROM ACTIVITIES OF THE COMMITTEE. THE MINISTERS ALSO DISCUSSED THE PURSUIT OF MORE LIBERAL TRADE POLICIES AND REAFFIRMED THEIR UNEQUIVOCAL OPPOSITION TO ECONOMIC BOYCOTT AND DISCRIMINATION BASED ON RACE, NATIONAL ORIGIN OR RELIGION. END QUOTE.

2. COMMENT. COMMITTEE IDEA WAS RAISED BY MR. ALLON DURING VISIT TO ISRAEL BY FORMER EXSTAFF MIN MACEACHEN EARLIER THIS YEAR AS PART OF A MIDDLE EAST TOUR. MR. ALLON HAS BEEN ATTENDING MEETINGS OF THE UN GENERAL ASSEMBLY IN NEW YORK AND OTTAWA STAY IS PART OF FOUR-DAY VISIT TO CANADA WHICH WILL INCLUDE VISITS TO MONTREAL AND TORONTO. WHILE IN OTTAWA HE WILL ALSO HOLD TALKS WITH CONSERVATIVE LEADER JOE CLARK AND NDP LEADER ED BROADBENT. ENDERS

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